

CASE: 0918

--- NEGOTIATION ACTIONS ---

18 August 1984

A NEGOTIATION FOLDER ON HARRISON H. KLINCK WAS PASSED TO VIETNAMESE FOREIGN MINISTER, NGUYEN CO THACH, ON 3 OCT 83 IN NEW YORK BY ANN MILLS GRIFFITHS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL LEAGUE OF FAMILIES. ANOTHER FOLDER WAS PASSED TO THE SRV PURSUANT TO SRV/JCRC TECHNICAL MEETING 15-18 AUG 1984.

--- ASSOCIATED INDIVIDUALS ---

30 August 1975

INCIDENT/LAST KNOWN LOCATION CHANGED FROM WJ 813 313 TO WJ 519 313 BASED ON AF FORM 484, 388TH CMBT SPT GP (BDPPA), 24 NOV. 67.

--- ARCHIVAL RESEARCH INFORMATION ---

17 September 1993

ON 17 NOV 92, THE SRV PROVIDED A DOCUMENT TITLED "HA TAY PROVINCE RECORD OF DOWNED U.S. AIRCRAFT FROM 1965 TO 1967". LINE ENTRY #35 CORRELATES TO REFNO 0918 BASED ON INCIDENT DATE, APPROXIMATE LOCATION OF LOSS, AIRCRAFT TYPE AND THE REFERENCE TO ONE PILOT DEAD. (REF 2)

30 September 1993

ON 17 NOV 92, THE SRV PROVIDED A DOCUMENT TITLED "LIST OF AMERICAN PILOTS TAKEN BY THE PEOPLE AND ARMY OF HOA BINH DURING THE EIGHT YEAR WAR (3 MAY 1965 TO 30 DEC 1972)". LINE ENTRY #38 POSSIBLY CORRELATES TO REFNO 0918 BASED ON INCIDENT LOCATION, AIRCRAFT TYPE, STATUS OF AIRCREW AND APPROXIMATE INCIDENT DATE. (REF 3)

28 October 1993

ON 17 DEC 92, THE SRV PROVIDED A DOCUMENT TITLED, "COMBAT ACTIONS OF THE VIETNAM PEOPLES AIR FORCE 1965-1972." LINE ENTRY #160 CORRELATES TO REFNO 0918-0-01 BASED ON INCIDENT DATE, LOCATION OF LOSS AND AIRCRAFT TYPE. (REF 4)

JOINT TASK FORCE - FULL ACCOUNTING

BIOGRAPHIC/SITE REPORT AS OF 2 NOVEMBER 1993

----- BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION -----

REFNO: 0919-0-02 (ACCNO 1257)  
Name: CLOWER, CLAUDE DOUGLAS

Status: (T) RELEASED  
Date Status assigned: 14 Mar 1973

Nationality	AMERICAN	Race	CAUCASIAN	Blood Chit	#
Service	NAVY	Sex	MALE	Blood type	#
Grade	04	Hair	BLOND	Complexion	FAIR
SSAN	DATA	Eyes	BLUE	Weapon	#
Serial No	605476	Height	72 in / 1.83 mtrs	Weapon No	#
Birth date	30 Nov 1930	Weight	189 lb / 85.6 kg	Duty pos	PILOT
Home State	TEXAS	Religion	PROTESTANT	PW Camp	HANOI PW DETE

----- SITE INFORMATION -----

INCIDENT LOCATION (0)

Site Type: CRASH SITE  
UTM: 48QXH683896  
Lat/Long: 204200N / 1063658E  
Country: NORTH VIETNAM  
Military Region: 3  
Mission Province: HAI PHONG  
(formerly): HAIPHONG  
Mission District: TIEN LANG  
Mission Date: 19 Nov 1967 1140L  
Mission Category: \$  
Local Analysis: None.

----- JTF-FA ACTIVITY SUMMARY -----

No Information Available

----- VEHICLE DATA -----

Vehicle Type: F4B	Serial: 150997
Crash Type: Enemy action	Engine Type: J79
Call Sign: SWITCHBOX 110	1 Serial: #
Year: \$	2 Serial: #

----- SPECIAL CHARACTER KEY -----

# = Item has been researched but data cannot be obtained.  
\$ = Item is not applicable to this case.  
@ or Blank = Data for item is unknown or not available.

## JOINT TASK FORCE - FULL ACCOUNTING

BIOGRAPHIC/SITE REPORT AS OF 2 NOVEMBER 1993

## BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

REFNO: 0919-1-01 (ACCNO 1291)  
Name: ESTES, WALTER OStatus: (K) REMAINS RECOVERED  
Date Status assigned: 25 Oct 1977

Nationality	AMERICAN	Race	CAUCASIAN	Blood Chit	
Service	NAVY	Sex	MALE	Blood type	O #
Grade	02	Hair	BROWN	Complexion	FAIR
SSAN	DATA	Eyes	HAZEL	Weapon	#
Serial No	692589	Height	69 in / 1.75 mtrs	Weapon No	#
Birth date	10 Jun 1939	Weight	171 lb / 77.5 kg	Duty pos	RIO
Home State	MICHIGAN	Religion	PROTESTANT	PW Camp	#

## SITE INFORMATION

## INCIDENT LOCATION (0)

## LAST KNOWN LOCATION (1)

Site Type:	CRASH SITE	RESOLVED SITE
UTM:	48QXH683896	48QXH683893
Lat/Long:	204200N / 1063658E	204150N / 1063658E
Country:	NORTH VIETNAM	
Military Region:	3	
Mission Province:	HAI PHONG	
(formerly):	HAIPHONG	
Mission District:	TIEN LANG	
Mission Date:	19 Nov 1967 1140L	
Mission Category:	\$	3
Local Analysis:	None.	Near populated area.

## JTF-FA ACTIVITY SUMMARY

Remains Repatriated: YES  
Vessey Case: NO  
Case type: DISCREPANCY  
Survivability: (1) Out of the aircraft at the time of the crash

## VEHICLE DATA

Vehicle Type: F4B	Serial: 150997
Crash Type: Enemy action	Engine Type: J79
Call Sign: SWITCHBOX 110	1 Serial: #
Year: \$	2 Serial: #

## SPECIAL CHARACTER KEY

# - Item has been researched but data cannot be obtained.  
\$ - Item is not applicable to this case.  
@ or Blank - Data for item is unknown or not available.

CASE: 0919

## --- CIRCUMSTANCES OF LOSS ---

21 November 1975

ON 19 NOVEMBER 1967, LCDR CLAUDE D. CLOWER, PILOT, AND LTJG WALTER O. ESTES, RADAR INTERCEPT OFFICER, WERE CREWMEMBERS FLYING THE LEAD F4B AIRCRAFT, (BUNO #150997), OF TWO ON A TARGET AREA COMBAT AIR PATROL (TARCAP), MISSION NORTHEAST OF THE HAIPHONG AREA OF NORTH VIETNAM. DURING THE MISSION THE TWO AIRCRAFT WERE SEEN ON RADAR IN THEIR ASSIGNED AREA AND TURNING TO A SOUTHWESTERLY HEADING WHEN LT ESTES REPORTED MIG 17 AIRCRAFT OFF HIS RIGHT WING. NOT REALIZING THAT MIG 21 AIRCRAFT WERE APPROACHING FROM THE REAR, LCDR CLOWER ENGAGED THE MIG 17'S.

ABOUT 30 TO 45 SECONDS LATER, AFTER DESTROYING ONE MIG 17, THEIR AIRCRAFT WAS HIT BY AN AIR-TO-AIR MISSILE. LCDR CLOWER CALLED FOR EJECTION TWICE AND EJECTED HIMSELF IN THE VICINITY OF GRID COORDINATES (GC) XH 717 933. AFTER HIS PARACHUTE OPENED, LCDR CLOWER SAW TWO OTHER PARACHUTES IN THE AREA; A WHITE ONE WHICH HE THOUGHT TO BE LT ESTES; AND THE OTHER MUSTARD COLOR, WHICH WAS PROBABLY THE MIG PILOT. (LCDR CLOWER AT THIS TIME DID NOT REALIZE THAT THE OTHER TARCAP AIRCRAFT ALSO HAD BEEN LOST DUE TO ENEMY ACTION). (REF 1 & 2)

AFTER THE PARACHUTE LANDING A BEEPER SIGNAL WAS HEARD FOR ABOUT TEN MINUTES IN THE VICINITY OF (GC) XH 717 933, BUT THE EXACT LOCATION COULD NOT BE DETERMINED. DUE TO THE TONE IT WAS THOUGHT TO BE AN AIR FORCE RATHER THAN A NAVY BEEPER SIGNAL. A GARBLED TRANSMISSION ALSO WAS HEARD ON THE EMERGENCY FREQUENCY FROM AN UNIDENTIFIED PERSON STATING THAT HE WAS ON THE GROUND AND WAS BEING STRAFED BY TWO MIGS. THE SEARCH AND RESCUE EFFORT WAS CALLED OFF, AS THERE WAS NO ACCURATE LOCATION OF THE MISSING CREWMEMBERS. (REF 3)

LCDR CLOWER WAS CAPTURED, TIED, AND BLINDFOLDED DURING HIS TRIP TO A POW CAMP. DURING PART OF HIS TRIP HE WAS JOINED BY ANOTHER AMERICAN, BUT THE TWO WERE NOT ALLOWED TO IDENTIFY THEMSELVES TO EACH OTHER. LCDR CLOWER AT FIRST THOUGHT THAT THE OTHER INDIVIDUAL WAS HIS RADAR INTERCEPT OFFICER, BUT FROM THE LCDR CLOWER AND LT STEIR, (ANOTHER TARCAP CREWMAN), RELEASEE DEBRIEFINGS IT WAS DETERMINED THAT THE OTHER INDIVIDUAL IN THE TRUCK WAS ACTUALLY LT STEIR. (REF 2)

ON 21 NOVEMBER 1967 THE HANOI NEWSPAPER, NHAN DAN, PRINTED PHOTOS OF IDENTIFICATION CARDS OF LCDR CLOWER AND LTJG ESTES. THE PRAGUE, CZECHOSLAVAKIA RADIO ON THAT SAME DATE BROADCAST A NEWS RELEASE FROM HANOI THAT INDICATED THE CAPTURE OF LCDR CLOWER AND LTJG ESTES, (OF THE FOUR TARCAP CREWMEMBERS WHO WERE SHOT DOWN IN THIS INCIDENT, ONLY LCDR CLOWER AND LT STEIR WERE ACKNOWLEDGED AS DETAINEES BY NORTH VIETNAM. LTJG ESTES WAS ON THE LIST GIVEN TO PRIME MINISTER PALME OF SWEDEN AS "NEVER CAPTURED IN NORTH VIETNAM.") (REF 4)

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--- CIRCUMSTANCES OF LOSS ---

21 November 1975

DURING THE EXISTENCE OF JCRC, THE HOSTILE THREAT IN THE AREA PRECLUDED ANY VISITS TO OR GROUND INSPECTIONS OF THE SITES INVOLVED IN THIS CASE. THIS INDIVIDUAL'S NAME AND IDENTIFYING DATA WERE TURNED OVER TO THE FOUR-PARTY JOINT MILITARY TEAM WITH A REQUEST FOR ANY INFORMATION AVAILABLE. NO RESPONSE WAS FORTHCOMING. LCDR CLOWER WAS RELEASED.

--- SUBSEQUENT INFORMATION ---

7 August 1990

SOURCE PROVIDED FIRSTHAND INFORMATION CONCERNING THE CRASH SITE OF A U.S. AIRCRAFT VICINITY XH7591 AND THE DEATH AND BURIAL OF THE PILOT. DATE AND LOCATION CORRELATE WELL WITH REFNO 0919 AND REFNO 0920. SPECIFIC CORRELATION TO ONE OF THESE TWO INCIDENTS COULD NOT BE ESTABLISHED DUE TO THE SIMILARITIES OF BOTH INCIDENTS. (REF 6)

1 April 1991

SOURCE PROVIDED FIRSTHAND INFORMATION CONCERNING THE CAPTURE OF ONE PILOT AND DEATH OF ANOTHER VIC XH759923. POSSIBLE CORRELATION IS MADE BASED UPON GENERAL LOCATION AND CIRCUMSTANCES OF LOSS. (REF 7)

16 May 1991

SOURCE PROVIDED FIRSTHAND INFORMATION CONCERNING A U.S. AIRCRAFT SHOT DOWN BY FOUR VIETNAMESE AIRCRAFT IN FEBRUARY 1967, THE CRASH SITE (XH766919), THE CAPTURE OF ONE CREWMAN, AND THE BURIAL SITE OF ANOTHER. THIS INFORMATION POSSIBLY CORRELATES TO EITHER REFNO 0919 OR 0920. (REF 8)

16 December 1992

SOURCE REPORTED SEEING A MULTI-SEAT U.S. FIGHTER AIRCRAFT SHOT DOWN BY AN AIR-TO-AIR MISSILE FIRED BY A VIETNAMESE FIGHTER. HE ACCURATELY DESCRIBED THE PHYSICAL FEATURES OF A DEAD AIRMAN SEEN NEAR THE CRASH SITE ASSOCIATED WITH THESE REFNOs. THE GUN SHOT WOUND REPORTEDLY SUFFERED BY THE DEAD AIRMAN DESCRIBED BY THE SOURCE HAS BEEN PREVIOUSLY CORRELATED TO THE DECEASED AIRMAN ASSOCIATED WITH REFNO 0919. THE TIME OF DAY THE LOSS INCIDENT DESCRIBED BY THE SOURCE OCCURRED IS GENERALLY CONSISTENT WITH THIS CASE. (REF 9)

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9 February 1993

SOURCE REPORTED SEEING A MULTI-SEAT U.S. FIGHTER AIRCRAFT SHOT DOWN BY AN AIR-TO-AIR MISSILE FIRED BY A VIETNAMESE FIGHTER. HE ACCURATELY DESCRIBED THE PHYSICAL FEATURES OF A DEAD AIRMAN SEEN NEAR THE CRASH SITE ASSOCIATED WITH THESE REFNOs. THE GUN SHOT WOUND REPORTEDLY SUFFERED BY THE DEAD AIRMAN DESCRIBED BY THE SOURCE HAS BEEN PREVIOUSLY CORRELATED TO THE DECEASED AIRMAN ASSOCIATED WITH REFNO 0919. THE TIME OF DAY THE LOSS INCIDENT OCCURRED DESCRIBED BY THE SOURCE IS GENERALLY CONSISTENT WITH THESE CASES. (REF 10)

--- REFERENCES ---

21 November 1975

REFERENCES: <1> RPT , CO FIGHTER SQDR 151, 151, 8 DEC 67. <2> RPT , ONI, DEBRIEF OF LCDR CLAUDE D. CLOWER, 22 AUG 73. <3> MSG , CTU SEVEN SEVEN PT NINE, 190530Z NOV 67. <4> RPT , FILE RECORD SUMMARY, UNDATED. <5> MSG, CDRTAGCEN WASHDC //DAAG-PED// 251500Z OCT 77. <6> 89-173, JCRC LIAISON BKK, 130715Z NOV 89. <7> 90-061, JCRC LIAISON BKK 251106Z MAY 90. <8> 91-006, 2 APRIL 1991. <9> CJTFFA DET ONE RPT 91-076, 5 AUG 92. <10> CJTFFA DET ONE RPT HK91-076, 5 AUG 92. <11> CDR JTF-FA HONOLULU HI//J2// DTG 211122Z SEP 93. <12> CDR, JTF-FA/J2 210022Z OCT 93.

--- NEGOTIATION ACTIONS ---

15 June 1977

NEGOTIATION FOLDER PASSED TO STATE ON 13 MAY 1977 AND PROVIDED TO SRV DELEGATION ON 2 JUNE 1972.

--- ASSOCIATED INDIVIDUALS ---

21 November 1975

ASSOCIATED INDIVIDUALS: WALTER O. ESTES 0919-1-01 AND CLAUDE D. CLOWER 0919-0-02.

24 September 1976

INCIDENT LOCATION CHANGED FROM XH 717 933 TO XH 683 896 AND LAST KNOWN LOCATION OF XH 683 893 ENTERED BASED ON JCRC MSG, 242357Z SEP 76.

--- REPATRIATION ACTIONS OR STATUS CHANGES ---

20 December 1989

ON 30 SEP 1977, THE SRV REPATRIATED THE ALLEGED REMAINS OF WALTER "O"

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ESTES. ON 25 OCT 1977, THE ARMED FORCES IDENTIFICATION REVIEW BOARD APPROVED THE IDENTIFICATION OF THE REMAINS AS LCDR WALTER O. ESTES. (REF 5)

--- ARCHIVAL RESEARCH INFORMATION ---

23 September 1993

SRV DOCUMENT PROVIDED ON 17 NOV 92, TITLED "AMERICAN AIRCRAFT STATISTICS SHOT DOWN DURING THE 3 YEARS FROM 65-67 IN HAI PHONG" POSSIBLY CORRELATES TO REFNO 0919. LINE ENTIRES #12 AND #13 POSSIBLY CORRELATE BASED ON INCIDENT DATE AND LOCATION. (REF 11)

28 October 1993

ON 17 DEC 92, THE SRV PROVIDED A DOCUMENT TITLED, "COMBAT ACTIONS OF THE VIETNAM PEOPLES AIR FORCE 1965-1972." LINE ENTRY #115 POSSIBLY CORRELATES TO REFNO 0919 BASED ON INCIDENT DATE, LOCATION OF LOSS AND AIRCRAFT TYPE. (REF 12)

JOINT TASK FORCE - FULL ACCOUNTING

BIOGRAPHIC/SITE REPORT AS OF 2 NOVEMBER 1993

----- BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION -----

REFNO: 0920-0-01 (ACCNO 1460) Status: (K) REMAINS RECOVERED  
Name: TEAGUE, JAMES ERLAN Date Status assigned: 25 Oct 1977

Nationality	AMERICAN	Race	CAUCASIAN	Blood Chit	\$
Service	NAVY	Sex	MALE	Blood type	O +
Grade	02	Hair	BROWN	Complexion	FAIR
SSAN	DATA	Eyes	HAZEL	Weapon	#
Serial No	708549	Height	73 in / 1.85 mtrs	Weapon No	#
Birth date	23 Jul 1943	Weight	171 lb / 77.5 kg	Duty pos	PILOT
Home State	ARKANSAS	Religion	PROTESTANT	PW Camp	#

----- SITE INFORMATION -----

INCIDENT LOCATION (0)

Site Type: CRASH SITE  
UTM: 48QXH683896  
Lat/Long: 204200N / 1063658E  
Country: NORTH VIETNAM  
Military Region: 3  
Mission Province: HAI PHONG  
(formerly): HANOI  
Mission District: THUY NGUYEN  
Mission Date: 19 Nov 1967 1140L  
Mission Category: \$  
Local Analysis: Near populated area.

----- JTF-FA ACTIVITY SUMMARY -----

Remains Repatriated: YES  
Vessey Case: NO  
Case type: DISCREPANCY  
Survivability: (1) Out of the aircraft at the time of the crash

----- VEHICLE DATA -----

Vehicle Type: F4B	Serial: 152304
Crash Type: Enemy action	Engine Type: J79
Call Sign: SWITCHBOX 115	1 Serial: #
Year: \$	2 Serial: #

----- SPECIAL CHARACTER KEY -----

# = Item has been researched but data cannot be obtained.  
\$ = Item is not applicable to this case.  
@ or Blank = Data for item is unknown or not available.